

An Essay on
Inflammation

Respectfully Submitted
to the Faculty of the
Homoeopathic Medical College

of
Pennsylvania

on the 31st day of January
Eighteen Hundred and Fifty Six

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64 Inflammation

There has been in former times, a great diversity of opinion as regards to the pathological condition of this disease but at the present day most of the Physicians and Surgeons believe it to be an engorgement of the Capillary vessels or tubes, the result of a marked and delayed contraction of their walls.

An other organic distortion the contraction of blood from the venous system to the arterial through the veins and walls of these tubes which become engorged and are caused by the increased

Inflammation

There has been in former times, a great diversity of opinion in regard to the pathological conditions of this disease. but at the present day, most of the physicians and Surgeons, believe it to be an engorgement of the Capillary vessels or tubes, dependent upon a weakened and relaxed condition of their walls.

In all organic textures the transmission of blood from the minute arteries, to the veins, is through a fine net work of these tubes, which become engorged and overtaxed by the increased

Act

action of the heart and
arteries.

We first become acquainted
with inflammation, by its
Characteristic Symptoms.
which are pain heat redness
and swelling. Each of which
is dependent upon a morbid
Condition of certain organs
or tissues -

Pain is generally the first
Symptom, the intensity of
which depends. 1st upon
locality 2^d upon the natural
Sensitiveness of the patient.
Some persons being much
more sensitive to pain than
others. The sensitive nerves.

if not implicated. are
infringed upon by the
surrounding parts. and as
the inflammation increases
pain is also more acute.
And according to the vary-
ing nature of the part
affected.

Heat is a phenomena
which is never absent. and
generally prominent. But
it is a very difficult one
to describe, satisfactorily.
It is created in part by
vital force or action. through
the medium of arterial
circulation. but principally
by molecular death of

the constituents of blood and tissues. for as soon as vitality ceases to exist in the parts. they become amenable to the laws of physics. and by the chemical changes which follow. heat is produced.

Redness depends upon the increase of blood in the part. for it has been ascertained ~~by~~ pathologists. that those vessels. which in their normal condition only transmitted colorless fluid. are now crowded with red corpuscles. also those which conveyed only

a single column are now
filled with agglomerated
masses. There may be
also an extravasation of
blood into the cellular struc-
ture as well as serum.

This also depends much
upon locality. The greater
the supply of blood vessels
to a part the greater will
be the redness when inflamed.

Swelling in the first stages
depends upon distention
of the vessels and extravas-
ation of blood and serum.
but in the latter stages
of the disease there may.

be thickening of the walls
of the ~~walls~~ of these vessels.
And there also ^{may} be Coagula
of blood and lymph.

Still there may be inflam-
mation without much of
any swelling. But this
is not generally the case.

In this disease all of the
symptoms depend one
upon the other to a certain
extent. When they are all
prominent the disease cannot
~~well~~ be mistaken.

Some or all of these symp-
toms are present in most
every disease. Still when
in connection they Character

ize inflammation. no matter
where situated.

Causes of this disease are
various. Such as mechanical
injuries of any kind, or
some morbid condition
of the blood. But the
exciting cause whether
external. Such as injuries
of a part or internal as
diseased blood. acts upon
the sensitive nerves. sup-
plying that part as a
stimulent. producing
an excited state. which
(state) is conveyed to some
nervous Centre. and thence
reflected on the motor

nerve supplying that or
some relative part.

This reflection however
is supposed to bring
about a kind of antago-
nistic sympathy so
that instead of exciting
the motor nerves to contract
it paralyzes them, and is
followed by contraction
or dilation which is the
most probable these vessels
having no contractile
power - This dilata^{tion}
being an exudation
and other phenomena
follows as mechanical
consequences, or natural.

The terminations may be by resolution or by supuration. The former is much more desirable and in order to have such a result, it is necessary, in many cases, to do something to assist nature in her efforts, to overcome the disease, and bring about a healthy termination, though in some cases, if left to itself, she may be able to, without the aid of art.

In order to treat this disease successfully it is necessary to under

Stand it fully in all
its varied forms. for there
is not a disease to which
the human frame is
subject. but which either
commences with, or ends in
inflammation of some part
of the body. It is interesting
not only to study its morbid
phenomena but its termi-
nations complications &c.

We find, notwithstanding
its destructive consequences
many diseases cannot
be cured without first
causing an ~~unhealthy~~ infla-
mmation by some mechan-
ical means. For instance

in the operations for
Hydrocele Hernia &c &c
were it not for this it would
be useless to operate.

So that it is necessary, no
one can doubt.

When called upon to treat
this disease or any other it is
necessary to study well
the symptoms which
are our only guide.

It is always well to find
out the exciting cause at
first, if possible. and
remove it, after which
the application of such
remedies as may be
indicated, can be made

with good results. Generally
We are not to use the
Lancet the first thing (as
our alafath would recommend
and practice to perfection)
But to use some of the
Remedies of our Materia
Medica. which will
have a much more
desirable effect. And to do
this it is necessary, not
only to understand the
Symptoms of the disease
but those of the remedy
also. Then such a one
~~as~~ may be selected as
corresponds to the disease
and administered according to the

The remedies which are
most likely to be indic-
ated are such as Acon.
Ars. Bell. Bry. Cham. Rhus.
Can. Canth. and Sulp.

If after the judicious em-
ployment of such remedies
the disease still progresses
and there is threatened
suppuration. Other remedies
may be more applicable
Sil. Hep. Sulp. Cal. Merc.
Lyc. Sulp. Ars. & Carb. Veg.

There may be still others
but in ordinary cases
such as, may be selected
from those mentioned
and applied according to

the law. Similia Similibus
Curantur will have the
desired effect.

The external application
of Arzica as well as the
internal administration
in such Cases as arise
from mechanical injury
may be made. In no
other Cases would an
external application be
advisable according to our
teachings which are suff
icient to warrant us in
such treatment.

Very respectfully

Yours.

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